

I CLAIM:

1 1. A hydrocyclone separating apparatus comprising:
2 a housing subdivided into a central chamber provided
3 with an input port and a pair of end chambers having respective
4 outlet ports;

5 a plurality of hydrocyclones extending across the
6 central chamber between the end chambers, the hydrocyclones each
7 having an intake in the central chamber and an end output in each
8 of the output chambers, whereby a fluent mixture pumped via the
9 input port into the central chamber is separated by the
10 hydrocyclones into a light fraction exiting one of the end
11 chambers from the respective outlet port and a heavy fraction
12 exiting the other of the end chambers from the respective outlet
13 port; and

14 a layer of low-friction durable material coating outer
15 surfaces of the hydrocyclones in the central chamber.

1 2. The hydrocyclone separating apparatus defined in
2 claim 1 wherein the material is polytetrafluoroethylene.

1 3. The hydrocyclone separating apparatus defined in
2 claim 2 wherein the layer has a thickness of at least 8 μm .

1 4. The hydrocyclone separating apparatus defined in
2 claim 2 wherein the layer has a thickness of about 17 μm .

1 5. The hydrocyclone separating apparatus defined in
2 claim 1 wherein the layer is plastic and includes film-forming
3 resins.

1 6. The hydrocyclone separating apparatus defined in
2 claim 1 wherein the layer is plastic and the layer includes
3 mineral fillers.

1 7. The hydrocyclone separating apparatus defined in
2 claim 1 wherein the outer surface underneath the layer is
3 roughened.

1 8. The hydrocyclone separating apparatus defined in
2 claim 7 wherein the outer surface is laser-roughened.

1 9. The hydrocyclone separating apparatus defined in
2 claim 7 wherein the outer surface is roughened by etching.

1 10. The hydrocyclone separating apparatus defined in
2 claim 7 wherein the outer surface is roughened by application of
3 thermally sprayed-on hard granules.